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16 October 1961
NPIC/IM-32/61

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence), CIA

THROUGH: TALENT Control Officer, CIA/ORR

25X1A ATTENTION: [REDACTED] DDI/GMTF

SUBJECT: USSR Rail Line Search for ICBM Activity

REFERENCES: (a) Requirement DDI/RR/E/R-48/61
(b) NPIC Project JN-231/61

1. This memorandum is in response to a request for a search of all rail lines in the USSR covered by KEYHOLE photography for ICBM activity.

2. In order to make the search uniform, it was conducted according to the following two criteria:

a. Examination was made of all stretches of rail line* 8 nm or more in length covered to a distance of 15 nautical miles (nm) on both sides by photography of good enough quality to determine (with a 95 percent degree of confidence) the existence of Yur'ya-type ICBM site complexes or of ICBM site complexes with launch areas resembling Areas A or B at the Tyura Tam Missile Test Center. (In this case, it can be assumed that neither of these types of complexes would be identifiable until far enough along in construction for support area, road pattern, and two or more launch areas to be discerned.)

* Broad-gauge main, branch, and spur lines connected to or a part of the main USSR rail network.

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b. Examination was made of all stretches of rail line 8 nm or more in length covered by interpretable photography for a distance of less than 15 nm but more than 3 nm by photography of good enough interpretability to determine (with a 95 percent degree of confidence) the presence of transport routes capable of supporting ICBM launch sites or the presence of transport routes leading to areas not covered by interpretable photography.

3. This search negated approximately 30,500 nm of Soviet broad-gauge rail line and produced no evidence of previously unreported ICBM activity.

4. Sixty-one WAC overlays have been prepared on the basis of the above search. All rail lines covered by KEYHOLE photography and ICBM-negated on the basis of this search are shown on these overlays. The KEYHOLE mission and pass number on which they were covered is indicated on the overlays. The location of all known ICBM sites is also shown on the overlays.

FOR THE DIRECTOR, NPIC

25X1A

Executive Director

Enclosure: Portfolio of 61 WAC Overlays (copies 1-6, 12, & 13)

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